

House File 152 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 152

BY GRASSLEY, HEATON, COWNIE,
ARNOLD, BALTIMORE,
KAUFMANN, WINDSCHITL,
BAUDLER, PETTENGILL,
RAYHONS, ALONS, HUSEMAN,
LOFGREN, HAGENOW, CHAMBERS,
SCHULTE, HAGER, SCHULTZ,
JORGENSEN, MOORE, S. OLSON,
PAUSTIAN, KLEIN, BYRNES,
VANDER LINDEN, MASSIE,
PEARSON, HANUSA, SHAW,
J. TAYLOR, LUKAN,
DOLECHECK, SANDS, DEYOE,
DE BOEF, HEIN, and HELLAND

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to the accessibility of welfare moneys
2 by welfare program recipients at certain gambling
3 establishments through electronic benefits transfer
4 programs.
5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 217.24, Code 2011, is amended to read as
2 follows:

3 **217.24 Payment by electronic funds transfer.**

4 The department of human services shall continue expanding
5 the practice of making payments to program participants and
6 vendors by means of electronic funds transfer. The department
7 shall seek the capacity for making payment by such means for
8 all programs administered by the department.

9 The department shall prohibit program participants from
10 accessing state-provided cash benefits from any automated
11 teller machine or point-of-sale terminal located at any of the
12 following locations:

13 1. Gambling boats.

14 2. Gambling structures.

15 3. Bingo halls.

16 Sec. 2. Section 234.6, Code 2011, is amended by adding the
17 following new subsection:

18 NEW SUBSECTION. 9A. Recommend rules for their adoption by
19 the council on human services to ensure that welfare program
20 recipients acknowledge that the intent of the program is to
21 meet the basic subsistence needs of the recipient or the
22 recipient's family.

23 Sec. 3. Section 234.12A, subsection 1, Code 2011, is amended
24 to read as follows:

25 1. The department of human services shall maintain an
26 electronic benefits transfer program utilizing electronic funds
27 transfer systems for the food assistance program. This program
28 shall be administered in accordance with the requirements
29 of section 217.24 and section 234.6, subsection 9A. The
30 electronic benefits transfer program implemented under this
31 section shall not require a retailer to make cash disbursements
32 or to provide, purchase, or upgrade electronic funds transfer
33 system equipment as a condition of participation in the
34 program.

35 EXPLANATION

1 This bill requires the department of human services to
2 ensure that all welfare program recipients acknowledge that the
3 welfare funds received are meant for basic subsistence.
4 The bill requires the department of human services to
5 prohibit electronic benefits transfer recipients from
6 accessing program funds through automated teller machines
7 and point-of-sale terminals at certain types of gambling
8 establishments.